



# COMMISSION ON INSURANCE

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Scott J. Svonkin  
**Chairperson**

Daniel Falcon  
**Vice-Chairperson**

Barry R. Binder, Esq.  
Bob L. Blake  
Glenn S. Brown, J.D.  
William K. Callagy  
Michael G. Cheung  
Helene S. Lohr, LOTCT  
Patricia Torres, Esq.  
Steven Vicencia, CPCU

### MINUTES

Meeting of January 15, 2009  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 374-A  
500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Commissioners Present:** Scott J. Svonkin, Steven Vicencia, CPCU, Helene S. Lohr, LUTCF, Patricia Torres, Esq., Barry Binder, Esq., Bob L. Blake, Glenn S. Brown, J.D., Michael G. Cheung, William Callagy

**Commissioner(s) Absent:** Daniel Falcon

### CALL TO ORDER

Noting a quorum was present, Chairman Svonkin called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairman Svonkin.

### APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Vicencia seconded by Commissioner Lohr and unanimously carried, the November 20, 2008 meeting minutes were approved.

### NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS (CHAIRPERSON & VICE CHAIRPERSON)

Nominations for Chairperson were opened. Commissioner Blake nominated Chairperson Scott J. Svonkin for reelection. There being no other nominations from the floor, nominations were closed.

**On motion of Commissioner Blake, seconded by Commissioner Vicencia, with Commissioners Brown, Binder, Callagy, Cheung, and Torres voting aye, Scott J. Svonkin was reelected Chairperson.**

Nominations for Vice Chairperson were opened. Chairperson Scott J. Svonkin nominated Vice Chairperson Daniel Falcon for reelection. There being no other nominations from the floor, nominations were closed.

**On motion of Commissioner Vicencia, seconded by Commissioner Blake, with Chairperson Svonkin, Commissioners Brown, Binder, Callagy, Cheung, and Torres voting aye, Daniel Falcon was reelected Vice Chairperson.**

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Svonkin reported the following:

- Congratulated Commissioners Vicencia and Binder on their reappointment to the Commission.
- Reported on the Insurance Recovery Forum that took place on January 7, 2009 in Sylmar. Representatives from the California Department of Insurance and other agencies were at the forum to assist the victims and provide answers to their questions.
- Two major fires were declared November 14, 2008, which consumed modular homes in the Oakridge Mobile Home Park and residential homes. One of the two fires was declared a federal disaster. The City, County and State Departments have not met to decide which agency is responsible for the clean-up and debris removal. Commissioner Binder stated if the fire was considered a national disaster, the Federal Government should be responsible for the clean-up. Chairperson Svonkin stated that no agencies have taken the lead on the clean-up and debris removal.
- Chairperson Svonkin further stated that an agreement to meet was made among State Commissioner Poizner, Councilmember Alarcon, The Mayor's Office and the California Housing Authority to discuss which agency is responsible for the clean-up. Chairperson Svonkin instructed staff to follow up with Commissioner Poizner's office on the status of the meeting.
- Commissioner Lohr stated from the insurance perspective each mobile home owner could have cleared their own land thru their insurance company. However, mobile home policy normally read that the costs are taken off the amount left to purchase a new mobile home. Insurance owners are trying to get the clean-up done under one big umbrella so that costs are kept down.

- Chairperson Svonkin requested staff to disseminate a press release to all agencies to remind the victims of the Sayre fire to apply for assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Small Business Administration (SBA) no later than January 20, 2009. He also requested agendaize the Sayre fires for further discussion.
- Commissioner Torres suggested to invite a member of the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to attend the next meeting of the Commission to discuss the Sayre fire disaster and the role of the County and how the Commission may be of assistance. Additionally, Chairperson Svonkin requested staff to extend an invitation to a member of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky to the next Commission meeting.
- Chairperson Svonkin reported that Congress passed the H.R. 2, State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Reauthorization bill. This bill will provide healthcare coverage to 4 million uninsured children who are currently eligible for, but not enrolled in, SCHIP and Medicaid.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Lohr recommended that a copy of the proposed agenda is distributed to Commissioners for research of items posted on the agenda before the next scheduled commission meeting.

Commissioner Blake inquired about the status of Martin Luther King Hospital and the resources the Commission can provide to the Hospital.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business and without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Staff**

George Britton, Staff, Board of Supervisors  
Mireya Rivera, Staff, Board of Supervisors

**Guest(s)**

None